

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

COMMENDING GREECE AND TURKEY FOR PROVIDING EACH OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND RESCUE RELIEF AFTER RECENT EARTHQUAKES

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 188) commending Greece and Turkey for their mutual and swift response to the recent earthquakes in both countries by providing to each other humanitarian assistance and rescue relief.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 188

Whereas Greece and Turkey, two longstanding allies of the United States and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) partners, have each recently suffered devastating earthquakes;

Whereas Greece and Turkey have unresolved issues that have led to tensions in the past;

Whereas Greece and Turkey, in an unprecedented fashion, were the first to respond to these tragedies by providing their neighboring country with humanitarian assistance and rescue relief that ultimately reduced the number of casualties;

Whereas Greece and Turkey were successful in putting aside their differences in order to respond swiftly to these crises; and

Whereas Greece and Turkey have held successful talks to begin to resolve their issues of disagreement: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) commends Greece and Turkey for their mutual and swift response to the recent earthquakes in both countries by providing to each other humanitarian assistance and rescue relief;

(2) encourages the United States to continue its efforts in aiding both countries as they seek to rebuild after these tragedies;

(3) recognizes the renewed spirit of cooperation and the importance of the talks between Greece and Turkey; and

(4) encourages Greece and Turkey to persevere in resolving outstanding issues between the two countries.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. GILMAN. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The earthquake which devastated Turkey last August, Mr. Speaker, produced a swift reaction in neighboring Greece. Putting aside their bitter and

longstanding political differences, the people and government of Greece responded to their neighbor's plight with generous humanitarian assistance and support.

□ 1345

The significance of this response by Greece did not go unnoticed or unwelcomed in Turkey, as the Turkish government as well as media commented very positively about Greece's quick response to this tragedy. In September, a strong but fortunately less destructive earthquake struck Athens, and Turkey was the first nation to respond in assistance in the form of search and rescue teams to locate survivors.

In the aftermath of those two natural disasters, the Greek and Turkish foreign ministers have been meeting and agreed to continue discussions building on the new-found good will between the Greek and Turkish people aimed at resolving the issues that have produced tensions between these two NATO allies of our Nation.

I commend the cochairs of our Hellenic Issues Caucus, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), for recognizing the significance of this thaw in relations between our two important allies in the Eastern Mediterranean and for their initiative which puts the Congress on record in support of continuing the dialogue between Greece and Turkey so that all outstanding differences can be resolved. I also thank the distinguished gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), a senior member of our committee and chairman of the Committee on Government Reform, also an original cosponsor of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, we are now entering a critical stage for ensuring a peaceful future in that region of the Eastern Mediterranean. Next month, President Clinton will be visiting this region, and we hope he is going to use that occasion to make very clear to the government of Turkey our desire to see a settlement of a dispute in Cyprus on which Turkey needs to demonstrate a greater degree of flexibility.

We also hope that the President will make clear our interests in seeing that Turkey becomes accepted fully into the European Union when it meets the requirements of membership. There should be no discrimination against Turkey in that regard. In the interim, Mr. Speaker, our government should do everything we can to assist and encourage the process of reconciliation between Greece and Turkey.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to support the new spirit of reconciliation between Greece and Turkey and to unanimously adopt H. Con. Res. 188.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge all of my colleagues to give their strong support

H. Con. Res. 188. It rarely happens in the course of human events that two historic enemies, through misfortune and tragedy such as an earthquake, suddenly find themselves looking at each other with a different set of eyes. This is what is happening with respect to Greece and Turkey.

We have grown accustomed over decades and generations to view Greece and Turkey as irreconcilable opponents and even enemies, this despite the fact that they both are members of NATO; this despite the fact that both have excellent relations with the United States. The tragic earthquake has brought together these two historic opponents.

I want to pay strong tribute to the leadership in both countries and express the hope on behalf of all of my colleagues that the beginnings of a more benign dialogue between Greece and Turkey might just be a harbinger of a new era to come. This will require a great deal of understanding, a great deal of acceptance on both sides; but for the first time in modern history, we see responsible Greek officials like the foreign minister making kind statements about Turkey and vice-versa.

Such a development, Mr. Speaker, would not only be in the interests of these two countries and the stability of Europe and the cohesion of NATO, but it would be of tremendous value to United States national interests. It is our earnest hope that this tragic set of events, acts of nature, might have brought together these two formerly opposed countries, and I strongly urge my colleagues to support the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, in the place of the chairman of the committee, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), the cosponsor of the bill.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time and for the cooperation of the gentleman and his committee and his staff on this piece of legislation. As a sponsor of the bill, I rise to urge my colleagues, as others have done, to support H. Con. Res. 188.

Mr. Speaker, this bill commends Greece and Turkey for their mutual and swift humanitarian assistance to one another following two devastating earthquakes which rattled these two neighbors. Tensions between these two countries have always been high, and they have come to the brink of war on more than a few occasions. Although they share a history strong with conflicts, devastation and war, they revealed to the world that, in time of need, all human lives carry the same weight.

In this devastating time, Greece and Turkey were successful in putting aside their differences in order to provide assistance for all those people who were injured, buried under the rubble,

or left homeless by the earthquakes. Each country sent rescue workers, doctors, life saving equipment, blankets, and other forms of humanitarian aid to their neighbor. Greeks donated blood and provided schooling to Turkish students, all in the name of saving lives and building bonds of friendship, squashing previous animosity.

The acts of humanity that these countries have shown towards one another have generated a new favorable world sentiment. They prove once again that we can achieve a more peaceful future for our people, our world, and our planet, through good will, communications, and cooperation.

In recent months, government leaders and private businessmen from both countries have been meeting in the hopes of focusing on the similarities, rather than their differences, in order to forge a new positive relationship. They are presently holding their third round of talks on issues that affect both countries. These negotiations have created a feeling of optimism that these two nations will finally be able to resolve their differences.

Mr. Speaker, we need to send a message to Greece and Turkey that we recognize this renewed spirit of cooperation and the importance of the talks between them. We should encourage Greece and Turkey to persevere in resolving their outstanding issues.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the actions of these two governments and these two peoples. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Greece and Turkey for their heroic and achievements by supporting H. Con. Res. 188. Let this be a lesson to us all.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, before yielding to my good friend from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), I would like to pay tribute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), and my good friend, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), for their leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), one of the most distinguished Members of this body and a strong leader on the Committee on International Relations.

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, let me also commend the gentleman from California for the outstanding work he has done in being the conscience and the historian to this body. On many questions that come up, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) is always there with a historical and accurate display of what happened; and as long as we remember the past, then we can perhaps avoid problems in the future.

I stand to add my support to H. Con. Res. 188, commending Greece and Turkey for their mutual and swift response to the recent earthquakes in both countries by providing each other with

humanitarian assistance and relief. I think that it shows that there are more similarities in people than differences, and sometimes leaders create differences that should not be there.

For Greece to respond immediately to the terrible earthquake in Turkey, to go there to help people in need and then having a similar situation, not quite the magnitude, but Turkey responding very quickly to Greece, I think hopefully could set the framework. Sometimes out of tragedy comes positive things, and perhaps this may well may be a welcoming situation so that leaders of both countries can see they have so much in common.

They are both supporters of NATO; they both are against extremist elements in the region. They both are supportive of a strong European Union, so people not only in Western Europe but Eastern Europe and throughout that region will be able to prosper.

I think both countries have a lot in common because they both have been so prominent in the growth and development of the world. The great Greek Empire that gave us philosophers like Aristide and Socrates, and the whole foundation of democracy which was started by the Greek society, and then another great empire, taken, of course, by force, but also showed great leadership with the Ottoman Empire that lasted for many, many years. So two great nations, two nations that have had so much to do with the growth and development of the world as we know it today should not be at each other's throats.

We know of the unfortunate situation, and there was enough blame to go around in the 1970s when the problem in Cyprus occurred, and neither side's hands were totally clean. But 25 years later we should come to some resolution to that problem. We should admit that perhaps there were problems created by both sides; but we should no longer, as we move into a new millennium, talk about an issue that happened 25 years ago.

Cypriots, whether they are Greek or Turkish, are basically the same. They really do not even see differences in one another. So if we could get the original Cyprus people together and they talk together as Cypriots, not as Greeks or Turkish, I think we would see perhaps a resolution of this problem.

So I am in strong support and commend those who are active in the Hellenic Caucus, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), and my good friend, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), and also once again say that I think that it is possible for us to come up with a resolution.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), the chairman of the Committee on Government Reform.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my good friend, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), with whom I have had some differences on the Turkish-Greek issue over the years, for being a primary sponsor on this bill, along with the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), who came to me and we sat down and talked about it, and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) for her contribution. I also want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), with whom I have become quite a good friend over the last couple weeks and months.

So maybe the millennium is coming, and even my good friend, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), we are all becoming closer. I guess the millennium is getting closer by the day. I do not think they are quite as bad as I thought they once were, and hopefully they do not think I am quite as bad as they once thought I was.

But this resolution I think is extremely important because it sends a signal from the Congress of the United States to both Greek and Turkish governmental leaders about how we feel about their spirit of cooperation.

Sometimes out of bad comes good, and the terrible tragedy that occurred in Turkey showed that Greek citizens and Greek governmental leaders were concerned about their fellow human beings in Turkey who were suffering. Two or three weeks later there was a terrible earthquake in Greece, and the Turkish government and the Turkish people reciprocated in kind. So an era of good feeling has evolved out of this.

It is the kind of thing that sparks warmth in the human heart, when you see enemies who have come close to being at war with one another three times in the last 25 years working together because people are hurting.

□ 1400

Since that time, there have been three steps, four steps that have been taken by the two governments which are very positive. The two countries decided to form a joint emergency response team to deal with natural disasters. The Greek and Turkish diplomats have held a series of meetings over the past 2 months on issues such as cooperation in culture, tourism, environment, and combatting crime.

During a meeting of the EU foreign ministers that was held in September, Greece expressed its support for Turkey's membership in the European Union. These are great steps in the right direction.

This resolution will not gloss over the fact that there are still strong differences on the issue of Cyprus, and those issues long-term are going to have to be resolved. Both sides are going to have to sit down and work out their differences.

But make no mistake about it, steps in the right direction have been taken

by both Greece and Turkey. We applaud that in the Congress. We would like to see it continue. We want to work with both countries to make sure it continues. We want to congratulate them today for their efforts on behalf of each other in times of great crisis for their two countries.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it rarely happens that a freshman Member of this body makes as powerful an impact on our work as my good friend, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) for not only his leadership but his humanity, and for being a mentor to me on international and human rights issues in the short time that I have been a Member of Congress.

I am honored and pleased to join my colleagues today in commending in this resolution Greece and Turkey in their mutual and prompt responses to earthquakes in both countries.

On August 17, in the middle of the night, Turkey experienced an earthquake that claimed thousands of lives and destroyed thousands of buildings. For a country of any size, a tragic event like this one requires the help of the international community. Rescue workers from Greece were the first to respond to Turkey's urgent situation.

On September 7, an earthquake occurred in Greece. The earthquake in Greece also caused numerous deaths and damage to property, and despite the strains of rebuilding after its own catastrophe, Turkey was the first country to react by sending rescue personnel and other resources.

Both of these countries showed a real commitment to humanitarian values and to each other. When individuals were in need and the lives of millions of human beings were at stake, these two countries put aside their differences and without hesitation did their best to help each other through a difficult time. The prompt and generous support exchanged between these two longtime allies of the United States and NATO members led to a welcomed warming of relations that serves as a valuable lesson to the global community.

It is important for the United States and the world to remain committed to helping Greece and Turkey through this difficult time of rebuilding. I look forward to doing so, and to witnessing continuing discussions between the Turkish and Greek governments to work out their remaining differences on other issues.

Again, I commend our allies, Greece and Turkey, and I look forward to working with them in the years to come. I would also like to commend and offer thanks to my colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), the sponsor of this legislation, and the chairman and ranking Demo-

cratic Member of the Committee on International Relations for helping to bring this bill to the floor, and the other cosponsors of this legislation, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON).

Finally, I wish to extend my sincere condolences to the families of the victims of these two tragic events. I urge all Members to support this measure.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), the distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific of the Committee on International Relations.

(Mr. BEREUTER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and thank the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. CAMPBELL) for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I had an opportunity to speak on this resolution when it was before the Committee on International Relations, and I also would like to convey the fact that I speak as the chairman of the House delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.

Greece and Turkey are two valuable and highly valued members of the NATO alliance as far as the United States is concerned. We have been concerned for some time about the obvious friction that has existed between these two NATO allies. We also have been very concerned about the fact that the European Union slammed the door in the face of Turkey when they provided their initial interest, expression of interest, in becoming a member, eventually, of the European Union, in part, allegedly because of Greek opposition to such membership.

Out of the adversity, out of the tragedy of the earthquake that occurred in Turkey, Greece responded in a wonderful neighborly fashion. It was well received by the Turkish people and the Turkish government. It has provided an opportunity for improved relationships between these two valuable countries, and I want to commend both the government of Greece and the government of Turkey for the way in which they have reacted to the adversity.

As mentioned perhaps a few minutes ago, when later a less severe earthquake took place in Greece, Turkey was quick to respond. Indeed, Turkey sent earthquake teams to Taiwan when they had their recent earthquake.

I do hope, as the gentleman from New York (Chairman GILMAN) said, that this will lead us to an opportunity for further cooperation and for reaching a peaceful settlement of the long-standing dispute related to Cyprus between Greece and Turkey, and that it in general will provide an opportunity for increased cooperation and friendships between those two countries.

So at a time when we often come to the House floor to lament things that

are happening, it is good to commend our friends in Greece and Turkey for the extraordinary conduct that they have displayed in the wake of the recent tragedy.

I urge my colleagues to support the resolution.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), who has brought to this body potent powers of persuasion and the commitment to decency and human rights across the globe.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding time to me, and for his leadership in this body on so many important issues, both humanitarian, international, and just plain good policies for the United States of America.

As co-chair of the Congressional Caucus for Hellenic Issues and as an original sponsor of this legislation, I rise in strong support of resolution 188.

I would first like to thank the other co-chair of the Hellenic Caucus, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), for his support on this legislation and his continued good work on behalf of the people in Greece and Cyprus.

I would also like to thank the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) for his leadership on this issue and many others, and my colleague, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), for working with us to develop this legislation; and of course my colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), for bringing this bill quickly to the floor, along with the assistance and support of the ranking member, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON).

This resolution commends Greece and Turkey for their quick and measured response to each other in their time of great need. When the terrible earthquake struck Turkey in August, Greece was the first country, the absolute first country to send in planes and their very best military unit to provide aid. Just weeks later, Turkey returned the gesture of caring, humanitarian feelings, and friendship by immediately responding to the earthquake in Greece with aid in tow.

I have also heard accounts and read in the papers that during this terrible aftermath of the earthquake, that Turkish papers printed for the first time Greek headlines thanking their friends in Greece for coming to help them in their great time of need. This was especially important because there has been great animosity between the two countries, great conflicts. Yet, in the hands of tragedy, these two countries reached across their often turbulent past with humanitarian aid and as helping friends.

While this is a great step forward, we must continue to reach out to our allies, Greece and Turkey, to help them to build their relationship together.

The recently witnessed good will between the two countries will not continue if they do not continue to build a dialogue and foundation between the two countries.

After the earthquakes, there were meetings that took place between the foreign ministers, foreign minister George Papandreou and the Greek foreign minister, Mr. Cem, on the disputes in the Aegean, in the disputes over Cyprus. They have been trying to work together for some just resolution. We really want to applaud their work, and hope that they will build a better foundation for future relations.

The international community has seen the signs of these two countries working together, and we need to encourage them to continue this good will in resolving their ongoing differences in the ongoing talks they are having. We urge them to continue to resolve the conflicts between them. Once the dust settles from the earthquake, the problems of yesterday will still be there unless they build a lasting relationship.

I really feel very strongly about the possibility of reaching a solution based on the foundation that they are building. Both Greece and Turkey are important U.S. allies. It is important also because the President hopes to visit these two countries, and hopefully he can be part of an ongoing effort to resolve some of the disputes between them.

At this point I rise to applaud the two countries, and really to applaud my colleagues for bringing this issue to the floor.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CAMPBELL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 188.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

URGING AN END OF THE WAR BETWEEN ERITREA AND ETHIOPIA

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 46) urging an end of the war between Eritrea and Ethiopia and calling on the United Nations Human Rights Commission and other human rights organizations to investigate human rights

abuses in connection with the Eritrean and Ethiopian conflict.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 46

Whereas peace and stability existed between Eritrea and Ethiopia following the 1991 ouster of the Mengistu dictatorship and the independence of Eritrea in 1993;

Whereas on May 6, 1998, a military confrontation erupted between Eritrea and Ethiopia, resulting in the deaths of thousands of civilians and the reported forced detention or deportation of over 60,000 people;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of Eritreans and Ethiopians have been displaced from their homes as a result of this conflict;

Whereas the governments of the United States and Rwanda, the Organization of African Unity (OAU), as well as countries in the region, immediately put forth proposals for resolving the conflict;

Whereas on September 9, 1998, Congress passed H. Con. Res. 292 commending efforts by the United States facilitation team to resolve the crisis, including its success in brokering a moratorium on air raids, and calling on Eritrea and Ethiopia to end the conflict peacefully before it escalated into a full-scale war;

Whereas on December 17, 1998, the Central Organ Summit of the OAU approved a Framework Agreement in furtherance of its efforts to mediate the dispute between the 2 parties and provide an avenue for peace;

Whereas on January 29, 1999, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 1226 expressing its strong support for the OAU Framework Agreement, and calling on both parties to work for a reduction in tensions by adopting policies leading to the restoration of confidence between the governments and peoples of Eritrea and Ethiopia, including urgent measures to improve the humanitarian situation and respect for human rights;

Whereas the Government of the United States, the OAU, and countries in the region have been engaged in an intensive effort to identify a peaceful solution to the conflict;

Whereas on February 6, 1999, while sustained diplomatic efforts by the international community were ongoing, the moratorium on air strikes was violated and war once again erupted between Eritrea and Ethiopia;

Whereas on February 10, 1999, the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 1227 condemning the use of force by Eritrea and Ethiopia, stressing that the OAU Framework Agreement remains a viable and sound basis for peaceful resolution of the conflict, and calling once again on both countries to ensure the safety of the civilian population and respect for human rights and international humanitarian law;

Whereas the governments of Eritrea and Ethiopia have enjoyed warm relations with the United States and have stated their commitment to a peaceful resolution of the conflict based on the OAU Framework Agreement; and

Whereas the peoples of Eritrea and Ethiopia have suffered for decades due to war and manmade famines and do not deserve once again to suffer due to armed conflict, which could destabilize the entire subregion of Africa: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) deplores the escalation of the conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia which has resulted in the massive and senseless loss of life, as well as substantial economic hardship to the peoples of Eritrea and Ethiopia;

(2) strongly urges both Eritrea and Ethiopia immediately to bring an end to the violence between the 2 countries;

(3) commends the efforts of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and former United States National Security Adviser Anthony Lake to mediate peace between Eritrea and Ethiopia;

(4) strongly affirms United States support for the OAU Framework Agreement; and

(5) calls on the United Nations Human Rights Commission and all human rights organizations to investigate human rights abuses in connection with the forced detentions, deportations, and displacements of populations caused by this conflict.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE).

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. ROYCE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, this resolution was authored by my colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. CAMPBELL). It urges an end to the 17-month-long war between Eritrea and Ethiopia. That war has resulted in the loss of more than 70,000 lives. This resolution calls for an investigation of human rights abuses in connection with that conflict.

I want to share with the Members here today that both Ethiopia and Eritrea continue to obtain arms. They continue to train troops, they continue to mobilize, and they continue to engage in a furious propaganda war. Frankly, the conflict is spreading. It is spreading into Somalia. The international community, including those calling for debt relief, have to say at this point, enough. That is what the gentleman from California (Mr. CAMPBELL) attempts to do with this resolution.

□ 1415

Hopefully, this resolution will help to bring home to both sides in that conflict that Congress has lost patience with Eritrea and Congress has lost patience with Ethiopia. We have lost patience with the intransigence that keeps a war going that neither side can afford.

This resolution recognizes the OAU framework. It provides an equitable basis to end the devastating conflict.

I would like to commend not only the author, the gentleman from California (Mr. CAMPBELL), but the other members of the Subcommittee on Africa as well that worked on this resolution, and specifically the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), the ranking member.